



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

FUGITIVE CRIMINAL ALIEN CAPTURED BY ICE IN RHODE ISLAND

Subject has multiple criminal convictions and 170 arraignments in Massachusetts

BRISTOL, RI—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers arrested a fugitive criminal alien with an extensive criminal history here yesterday.

ICE officers arrested Mario Jose Barbosa Carvalho, a 41-year-old citizen of Portugal, without incident at his residence in Bristol, Rhode Island. Carvalho has a lengthy criminal history that includes convictions that range from assault and battery with a dangerous weapon to breaking and entering and possession of cocaine. He has had 170 arraignments in Massachusetts.

“By finding and removing fugitive aliens, ICE is able to greatly enhance public safety in our communities,” said Bruce E. Chadbourne, field office director of ICE in New England. “In this case, ICE has arrested a dangerous and menacing criminal from our streets.”

Carvalho entered the United States legally over 30 years ago. As a result of his criminal convictions, a federal immigration judge ordered him deported from the United States. Carvalho failed to comply, and remained in the country in violation of the judge’s deportation order.

Carvalho’s arrest comes three weeks after ICE’s Operation FLASH, a New England wide operation targeting criminal alien fugitives. During Operation FLASH, ICE arrested 189 individuals across New England to include 56 in Rhode Island.

The arrests of Carvalho and the Operation FLASH fugitive aliens are a result of ICE’s National Fugitive Operations Program (NFOP), which is part of ICE’s ongoing effort to restore integrity to the nation’s immigration system. Last fiscal year, ICE removed a record 160,000 aliens from the country. So far this fiscal year, ICE has removed more than 75,500 aliens from the country, including more than 45,000 criminal aliens.

The aim of the NFOP initiative is to reduce the number of fugitive aliens in the United States. Fugitives are foreign nationals who have been ordered removed by a federal immigration judge, but failed to comply with those orders.

Currently, ICE has 16 Fugitive Operations Teams nationwide which are designed to identify, locate, and apprehend fugitive aliens for removal from the United States. The President's budget seeks \$8.8 million in enhanced funding in FY 2006 to increase the number of Fugitive Operations teams around the country. In fiscal year 2004, there was a 62 percent increase in the number of fugitive aliens apprehended by ICE compared to the previous year.

ICE's New England Field office has arrested over 760 fugitives so far this fiscal year.

Carvalho remains in ICE custody where he awaits removal from the U.S.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.